

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached drawing REPLACEMENT SHEET includes changes to FIG. 2. Specifically, as requested by the Examiner, FIG. 2 has been amended to include reference character 200, indicating a fluid cylinder.

Attachments: One (1) REPLACEMENT SHEET including FIG. 2.

REMARKS

Applicant submits this Reply to the Office Action mailed January 12, 2007. By this Reply, Applicant has amended claims 1, 11, 17, 25, 28, and 33. The specification and the drawings have also been amended. Accordingly claims 1-36 remain pending. The originally-filed specification, drawings, and claims fully support the subject matter of amended claims 1, 11, 17, 25, 28, and 33, the amended specification, and the amended drawing. Thus, this Reply introduces no new matter.

In the Office Action, the drawings were objected to under 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) "because they do not include the following reference sign mentioned in the description: fluid cylinder 200, as described at paragraph [21]." Office Action at 2. Applicant has amended Fig. 2 to include fluid cylinder 200. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to the drawings.

In the Office Action, the disclosure was objected to for certain informalities. Applicant has appropriately amended paragraph [02] of the specification and requests withdrawal of the objection to the disclosure.

In the Office Action, claims 1-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,822,206 to Sebastian et al. ("Sebastian"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection for the reasons provided below.

Sebastian cannot anticipate the claimed invention because Sebastian fails to disclose each and every element of claims 1-36. For example, each of independent claims 1, 11, 15, 17, 25, 28, and 33, although of different scope, has been amended to include the recitation "the machine component including a plurality of parts." Applicant

submits that Sebastian fails to disclose, among other things, at least this recitation.

Sebastian discloses “a computer-based method and apparatus for the concurrent design of a *part*, the tool to make *the part*, and the processes used in making *the part*.”

Sebastian, col. 5, ll. 11-14. Sebastian further discloses that “[a]s the present invention represents knowledge about a part, the tool to make the part, and the process used in making the part in frames of feature information, the present invention has the ability to reason and to enable automation of the transition from design to other aspects of product development.” Sebastian, col. 7, ll. 58-63. That is, Sebastian discloses a single part. Sebastian fails to disclose a machine component including a plurality of parts as required by independent claims 1, 11, 15, 17, 25, 28, and 33. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the Section 102(b) rejection of independent claims 1, 11, 15, 17, 25, 28, and 33, and their dependent claims, 2-10, 12-14, 16, 18-24, 26, 27, 29-32, and 34-36.

The Office Action contains characterizations of the claims and the related art with which Applicant does not necessarily agree. Unless expressly noted otherwise, Applicant declines to subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.

In discussing the specification, claims, and drawings in this Reply, it is to be understood that Applicant is in no way intending to limit the scope of the claims to any exemplary embodiments described in the specification or abstract and/or shown in the drawings. Rather, Applicant is entitled to have the claims interpreted broadly, to the maximum extent permitted by statute, regulation, and applicable case law.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant submits that this claimed invention, is not anticipated by the prior art reference cited against this application. Applicant

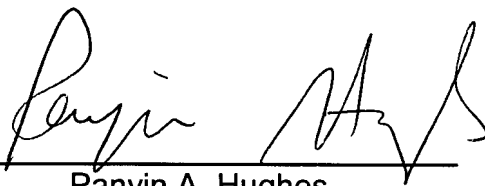
therefore requests the Examiner's reconsideration and reexamination of the application,
and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this Amendment and
charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: June 20, 2007

By: 
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Reg. No. 55,288